



*Office of Criminal Enforcement, Forensics and Training*  
*September 30, 2006*

<b>DEFENDANT:</b> Robert J. Lucas, Jr.
S.D. Mississippi 1:04CR60GuRo-001
<b>DEFENDANT:</b> Big Hill Acres, Inc.
S.D. Mississippi 1:04CR60GuRo-004
<b>DEFENDANT:</b> Consolidated Investments, Inc.
S.D. Mississippi 1:04CR60GuRo-005
<b>DEFENDANT:</b> M. E. Thompson, Jr.
S.D. Mississippi 1:04CR60GuRo-003
<b>DEFENDANT:</b> Robbie Lucas Wrigley
S.D. Mississippi 1:04CR60GuRo-002

**FACTS:** The defendants illegally filled in hundreds of acres of wetlands during the development of a 2,600 acre subdivision on property in Vancleave, Mississippi known as Bill Hill Acres. The defendants sold hundreds of home sites on the filled-in wetlands, despite warnings from public health officials, that they were illegally installing septic systems in saturated soil that would contaminate the property. The Mississippi Department of Health and other regulatory agencies told the defendants that they were creating a public health threat by continuing to install septic systems in saturated soil that could not support them properly. Despite warnings and cease and desist orders from the Corps and the EPA, Lucas and his associates continued to improperly install systems that did not conform to state health department regulations in lots that they continued to develop and sell. Most of the land was sold to low and/or fixed-income families. While selling the property, Lucas and several other defendants fraudulently told prospective buyers that the property was completely habitable. More than 600 families moved into Big Hill Acres, within several years, a large number of the septic systems failed, causing raw sewage to seep up from the ground and flow across the development. A number of the homes in Big Hill Acres also suffered from slow drainage; brown, foul-smelling water backing up into bathrooms, kitchens, laundries and sinkholes; and standing water on the lots with debris rising to the surface.

<b>DATE:</b> 06/09/2004	Consolidated was charged with conspiracy {18 U.S.C 371}. Wrigley was charged with a total of 39 counts. Lucas was charged with 41 counts, Thompson was charged with 32 counts. Charges included conspiracy, a violation of 18 U.S.C. 371, mail fraud, a violation of 18 U.S.C. 1341; violating the CWA {33 U.S.C. 1319(c)(2)(A) - unpermitted filling of wetlands, unpermitted discharge of sewage to wetlands}. Big Hill was charged with 18 counts of mail fraud {18 U.S.C. 1341} and one count of conspiracy {18 U.S.C. 371}.
<b>STATUTE:</b>	18 U.S.C. 1341, 18 U.S.C. 371, 33 U.S.C. 1319(c)(2)(A)
<b>DATE:</b> 01/10/2005	The defendants were convicted after trial on CWA violations Consolidated was found guilty of one count of conspiracy. Wrigley was convicted of 32 of the 39 counts. Lucas was convicted on all 41 counts. Thompson was convicted on 24 counts. Big Hill was convicted on all 19 counts.
<b>DATE:</b> 12/20/2005	The defendants were sentenced as follows: Robert Lucas was sentenced to 108 months incarceration, 36 months supervised release and ordered to pay a \$15,000

fine and \$4,100 in special assessments. Robbie Wrigley and M. E. Thompson were each sentenced to 87 months incarceration, 36 months supervised release and ordered to pay a \$15,000 fine and \$3,300 and \$2,500, respectively, in special assessment fees. Big Hill Acres, Inc. was sentenced to a \$4.8 million fine, 60 months probation and ordered to pay a \$7,600 special assessment. Consolidated Investments, Inc. was sentenced to 60 months probation and ordered to pay a \$400 special assessment, \$500,000 in fines. The defendants were all sentenced to pay 1,407,400 in restitution, which is for 454 mitigation credits from the Old Fort Bayou Mitigation Bank located in Jackson, MS or any other appropriate mitigation bank near Jackson County, MS.